

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE  
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

A. The following is a summary of Soviet military activity observed prior to 20 October 1954:

1. First Guards Mechanized Army

a. Activities at Koenigsbrueck:

On 24 and 25 September, ten trains loaded with tanks allegedly left from Koenigsbrueck in the direction of Dresden. On 26 September, a tank regiment of the 11th Guards Tank Division left the Artillerie Kaserne in Koenigsbrueck, and returned four days later. After 25 September, there were night troop movements from Neues Lager and from camps in the woods west of Schmorkau and Schwepnitz. Until 29 September, guns and tanks were observed in firing positions on Lausnitzer Heide. An exercise in the Kamerz area reportedly took place between 29 September and 6 October; the units had arrived via Schwepnitz and Strassgruebchen. On 7 and 8 October, heavy artillery and infantry fire was heard near Neues Lager.

b. Activities at Zeithain:

Between 28 September and 4 October, there was intensive training activity, including tank firing, in the Zeithain area.<sup>1</sup>

c. Troop Movements:

Between 1 and 3 October, four trains with approximately fifty heavy anti-tank guns, probably belonging to an artillery brigade, went from Koenigsbrueck to Altengrabow. Two other trains went from Meissen to Altengrabow. Three trains, presumably carrying rocket-launcher units and artillery units of the First Guards Mechanized Army and the Eighth Guards Mechanized Division, went from Leisnig, Wurzen and Eilenburg to Altengrabow. On 5 October, one shipment with 16 x 85 mm

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SECRET

25X1

-2-

anti-aircraft guns was dispatched from Meissen to Wustrow. Another shipment with twenty 85-mm anti-aircraft guns was sent from Leisnig to Wustrow. On 9 October, this was followed by one shipment from Dresden to Wustrow.

2. Second Guards Mechanized Army:

On 6 and 7 October, elements of the 88th Engineer Regiment returned from the maneuvers with the Third Shock Army in one or two shipments to Neubrandenburg. Between 30 September and 10 October, elements believed to be part of the Second Light Artillery Brigade from Doeberitz held firing exercises in Neustrelitz. Between 12 and 15 October, the Twelfth Guards Tank Division, reinforced by elements of the Second Light Artillery Brigade and the 31st AA Division, conducted exercises at Wittstock which included construction of a bridge across the Dosse river. Artillery units of the Ninth Guards Tank Division continued to hold small-scale exercises near the post. Artillery units, presumably of the First Mechanized Division, rotated to firing exercises at Jueterbog until 9 October, with some units returning by road. On 10 October eight T-34/85's were shipped from Doeberitz to Netzeband.

3. Third Guards Mechanized Army:

The rocket-launcher regiment was found at its post until 7 October. The Sixth Guards Tank Division was stationed in Camp Werder-Markendorf and at Forst Zinna, where artillery firing exercises were held, until 7 October. On 5 October the 120th Guards Engineer Battalion was observed in Camp Apollonsdorf where it practiced bridge construction. On 3 October a heavy tank and SP regiment of the Ninth Mechanized Division departed from the barracks north of Drachhausen for a several-day exercise. On 28 September one shipment carried an artillery unit, consisting of 18 x 122-mm field howitzers, from Jueterbog toward Halle. On 1 October one shipment with eight 122-mm field howitzers, eight prime movers and 15 trucks went from Jueterbog toward Dessau. Four shipments, each carrying one tank company, went from Jueterbog to Crinitz, located 12 km northeast of Finsterwalde, on 11 and 12 October.

4. Fourth Guards Mechanized Army:

On 14 October the bulk of the 6th Mechanized Division was still in its billeting area and training near its post. On 4 October a tank firing detail returned to Eberswalde from Templin. On 8 October the bulk of the 7th Guards Mechanized Division was at its posts. The cavalry school at Krampnitz (10th Guards Tank Division) was occupied by at least 4,000 men. After 13 October the 25th Tank Division engaged in an exercise in the southern part of the Templin training grounds. On 6 October the bulk of the 63rd AAA Division was at its posts. On 7 October elements of a light AAA regiment returned by road, after having departed from Kuestrin toward Manschnow on 25 September.

5. Third Shock Army:

Return shipments of engineer units were observed to Neuruppin, Bernau, Sperenberg (three shipments), Erfurt, Riesa (two), Weimar, Dessau, Neubrandenburg, and Eberswalde (two).<sup>2</sup> So far about 90 return shipments have been observed in all; these included two shipments from Kummersdorf to Magdeburg, representing the deactivation of the supply base for the maneuver of the Third Shock Army. On 9 October the quarters of the 3rd Guards AAA Division in Magdeburg were partly

SECRET

SECRET

25X1

-3-

occupied. On 7 October there were continued shipments of elements of the 136th Guards Heavy Tank and SP Regiment to Burg; the bulk of the regiment was subsequently at its post. On 8 October major elements of the 20th AT Artillery Brigade returned to Brandenburg. Units of the 18th Mechanized Division, including the 58th Mechanized Regiment with a tank battalion, arrived at Perleberg on 5 and 9 October. The 348th Engineer Battalion moved by road toward Ludwigslust. Camp Schweinrich was vacated by rear elements of the 18th Mechanized Division by 19 October.

6. Eighth Guards Army:

Most headquarters and Army troops and elements of the 20th Guards Mechanized Division were at their post in Weimar until 10 October. Both artillery brigades of the Eighth Guards Army were in Altenburg from their return there on 1 October up to 8 October. The bulk of the corps troops of the XXVIII Guards Motorized Rifle Corps were at their post up to 5 October and the bulk of the artillery brigade was at its post up to 8 October. Elements of the 39th Guards Motorized Rifle Division were in Plauen up to 11 October. The headquarters of the XXIX Guards Motorized Rifle Corps and the 57th Guards Motorized Rifle Division had not yet returned to Naumburg by 2 October. Between 24 September and 6 October 83 new two-axle trucks arrived at the artillery brigade in Merseburg; 30 old motor vehicles were turned in between 1 and 6 October. The rifle regiment in Weissenfels belonging to the 57th Guards Motorized Rifle Division returned to its post on 6 October. Up to 7 October the Kindel training grounds were only partly occupied. On 30 September more than 80 half-pontoons and other bridge-building equipment were loaded on trains at high speed from the Hubertus-Kaserne in Naumburg by an engineer column with a fatigue detail from the Luettich-Kaserne. The entrainment of tanks of the 21st Guards Mechanized Division in Weimar on 28 September has been confirmed; 80 tanks were observed. After 28 September troops returned to casernes in Halle. There were 26 shipments to Ammendorf, of which 18 came from Ohrdruf. On 7 October there were two shipments from Crawinkel to Potsdam.

25X1

7. Fourth Artillery Corps:

On 8-9 October the bulk of the 34th Artillery Division returned to Potsdam. On 7 October the bulk of the 6th Artillery Division, with the 18th Howitzer Brigade, the 65th Mortar Brigade, and the 25th Guards RL Brigade (approximately 40 M13 and new type rocket-launchers), was in Rathenow. On 10 October the bulk of the 2nd Guards AAA Division was at its post in Sperenberg. On 2 October four shipments went from Wustrow to Ruedersdorf, and on 5-6 October four shipments from Stendal to Frankfurt on the Oder.

8. Army Troops, GSFG:

On 3 October the bulk of the 36th Bridge-Building Regiment returned to Magdeburg from the exercises of the Third Shock Army: this included 120 TMP pontoon sections, 10 motor-boats, 8 light AA guns, 295 trucks, and 13 radio trunks. On 5 and 6 October there were three shipments from Guesen to Sperenberg, with a total of 86 amphibious cars with caterpillar tracks; this unit, with approximately 300 men wearing red-bordered black shoulder-boards with tank insignia, moved to its previous bivouacking place on Hege Lake.

9. The personnel-exchange movement continued. Some discharges have been confirmed, and intensive recruit training is going on at numerous posts.

B. The following is a summary of KVP activity observed prior to 20 October 1954:

SECRET

SECRET

25X1

-4-

1. Unit Activities:

The command post exercise of Corps North, scheduled to take place in the Neubrandenburg area from 30 September to 2 October, was canceled on 29 September. The fall inspection of elements of the Eggesin and Prenzlau Divisions ended on 4 October. In the area of Corps South, Camp Nochten and the Weisswasser training grounds were vacated on 4 October. On 4 and 6 October, elements of the Mechanized Division Potsdam which had arrived at Kliez on 27 and 28 September returned to Oranienburg. The AAA regiment returned in late September, and the mortar regiment on 3 October, to their posts at Potsdam and Premnitz. The bulk of the engineer regiment at Kliez has been engaged in exercises in the Ferchels-Mahlitz area since 28 September.

2. Miscellaneous: The fall inspection which took place in the Karpin area in late September was witnessed by Interior Minister Willi Stoph. Discharges from the Corps North are to start on 21 October.

Comment 1: The exercises at division level have been terminated.

Comment 2: The maneuver in this area concentrated on the employment of engineers.

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Comment: Despite intensive personnel exchange movements, firing practices and small-scale exercises were continued during the reporting period. The exercises of the reinforced 12th Guards Tank Division and the 25th Tank Division presumably mark the end of the fall maneuvers which is believed to have been set for about 15 October. The fall inspections of KVP units were probably completed by about 10 October. Allegedly, discharges of personnel with more than three years' service are to begin on 20 October.

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